

EXETER BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MINUTES MEETING OF OCTOBER 25, 2004

1. Convene the meeting

Chairman Campbell called the meeting of the Exeter Board of Selectmen to order at 7:00 PM on October 25, 2004. Present in addition to Chairman Campbell were Bob Eastman, Lionel Ingram and Paul Binette. Also present, George Olson, Town Manager

2. Public Hearing: Community Block Grant – E & H Cooperative

Chairman Campbell opened the Public hearing to receive comments on a Community Development Block Grant Application for a Feasibility Study Grant in the Amount of \$12,000 for the Exeter-Hampton Cooperative, a manufactured housing community within the Town of Exeter. Chairman Campbell read from the public notice of the meeting. (Attached).

Chairman Campbell then turned to Dennis Tewksbury, consultant to the Exeter-Hampton Cooperative, who presented the Board with a handout and a draft Application. Handouts and one copy of the draft Application were available for the audience. The Application and the handout outlined the need for a Feasibility Study of the water and sewer distribution and collection system in the Exeter-Hampton Cooperative Community. Mr. Tewksbury explained the submission process for the Grant and stated the reasons for the Grant request on behalf of the Exeter-Hampton Cooperative. He further explained that the Application required the Town to reaffirm its Housing and Community Development Plan and its Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Plan which was posted in the Hearing Notice.

Chairman Campbell solicited comments either pro or con from the audience. Edward Duncan, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Cooperative was recognized. He noted that since the Cooperative had taken over possession of the park the sewer system serving the 52 homes had been a problem and a more or less constant expense to the homeowners. The Cooperative has been looking for options to rebuild the sewer system. The condition of the system is such that a rebuild seems the only option.

Chairman Campbell asked if the Board members had any comments? **It was moved by Mr. Ingram, second by Mr. Eastman to reaffirm the Town's Housing and Community Development Plan and the Town's Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan. SO VOTED**

Town Manager Olson was directed to prepare the Plans with for signature and the new date.

It was moved by Mr. Eastman, second by Mr. Ingram that the Town of Exeter submit an Application to the New Hampshire Community Development Finance Authority for a \$12,000 Feasibility Study Grant to provide a plan/program for the

improvements/reconstruction of the Exeter-Hampton Cooperative water and sewer Systems. SO VOTED

It was moved by Mr. Ingram, second by Mr. Eastman to authorize the Town Manager to sign the Application. SO VOTED

It was moved by Mr. Eastman, second by Mr. Ingram to close the public hearing. SO VOTED

Chairman Campbell thanked those present for coming to the hearing.

3. Discuss 2003 Fund Balance

Chairman Campbell next turned to the matter use of the 2003 fund balance. Mr. Olson noted that the audit reflects a fund balance in the amount of \$2,802,783. He went on to inform the Board that the increase in property value over the past year and the passage of the default budget will mean that the Town's portion of the tax rate will remain largely unchanged even without the application of fund balance. He also noted recommendations from the GFOA and DRA that the Town fund balances be maintained at between 10% and 15%. With the tax rate to be set on the 28th direction was needed on disposition of the fund balance.

Mr. Eastman noting some computations he had done looking at past fund balances suggested that some of the balance should be applied to reduce taxes and that it should be based on keeping a fund balance of between 10% and 15%. Discussion followed.

It was moved by Mr. Eastman, second by Mr. Ingram, to retain 12 ½% of the 2004 operating budget as fund balance, the balance to be used to reduce taxes. SO VOTED

4. Open Police bids – ATV

Chairman Campbell proceeded to open bids for the Police ATV

Depot Honda Kawasaki, Rye	Arctic Cat 650	\$11,774
	Honda TRX650	\$11,874
	Kawasaki Prairie	\$11,374
Leightons Cycle, Lee	Kawasaki 750	\$9,730
	Kawasaki 650	\$8,805

It was moved by Mr. Binette, second by Mr. Eastman, to turn the bids over to the Town Manager and the Police Chief for review and recommendation at the next Selectmen's meeting. Mr. Binette questioned the need for the ATV. Mr. Olson explained that it was in part to be used to provide better security along the train tracks. Funding for the vehicle came from Homeland Security. Mr. Binette noted that the

forestry truck seems to get down the tracks just fine. Chairman Campbell called for a vote. **SO VOTED**

Chairman Campbell turned to Mr. Olson who had an addition to the agenda. Mr. Olson basked the Board to act on the bid for painting of the swimming pool bathhouse. Mr. Olson noted that the bathhouse was not heated and that the later the bid was approved the more time it would take to cure the paint. He recommended that the low bidder be accepted.

It was moved by Mr. Binette, second by Mr. Ingram, to award the bid to paint the pool bathhouse to M & L Maintenance in the amount of \$14,130. SO VOTED

It was moved by Mr. Eastman, second by Mr. Ingram, to adjourn. SO VOTED 7:47.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'George N. Olson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

George N. Olson
Town Manger